

CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East Germany REPORT TOPIC 1. Engineer Exercises near Rosslau2. Occupation of the Posts in the Dessau Area

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 640469 25X1DATE OF CONTENT 25X1DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 24 June 1954REFERENCES PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS This is UNEVALUATED

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1. Between 20 May and 4 June 1954, an underwater bridge, about 150 meters long, was constructed across a branch of the Elbe River between Rosslau and the Vockerode autobahn bridge. U-beams were laid out on the bridge. About one third of the wheels of the trucks which passed over the bridge were covered by water.

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construction of a bridge was started 5 times about 1 km east of the Elbe bridge near Rosslau. Every time towboats passed by, however the bridge was dismantled.

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2. Between 20 May and 4 June, the Pioneer Kaserne (3401), Rosslau, was occupied by about 700 to 800 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and tank insignia. About 200 soldiers were digging trenches on the road to Meinsdorf, and another 200 soldiers practiced firing with machine guns and rifles at the edge of the woods near Luko. About 150 soldiers drilled in the installation and others received instruction on 2 JG-2 tanks. Nine driving school trucks left the installation.

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3. Between 20 May and 4 June, the barracks installation in Kochstedt (3241) was occupied by about 700 to 800 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and tank insignia. The quarters were sprayed with anti-bedbug powder and were painted. On three days of observation, about 50 soldiers received instruction on 1 x 85-mm and 1 x 37-mm AA guns.

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4. On 3 June, a trench for a water pipe line was dug from the cantonment east of Gross Kuehnau to the engineer camp on the Elbe River. The pipe line, which was 6 km long, ran through Gross Kuehnau, which did not have water pipes of its own.

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1. Comment. [redacted] units of the two engineer regiments of the GOFU and the 19th Indep Gds Engr Bn of the Eighth Gds Army participated in the exercises. The laying out of U-beams indicates that TMP bridge building equipment was used, the floating supports of which can be submerged by flooding.

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2. Comment. [redacted] In addition to guard details, the unidentified tank training battalion is believed to have remained in the installation.

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3. Comment. [redacted] the installation is occupied by major elements of the 62d AAA Div (US) and a rear detail of the 4th Gds Mtrcl Bn of the 7th Gds Tank Div.

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4. Comment. This is presumably the summer camp of the unidentified engineer regiment of the GOFU from Bernburg east of Hirschlecker Dam.

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